EPA's National Priorities (OECA) Concerning Tribal Lands

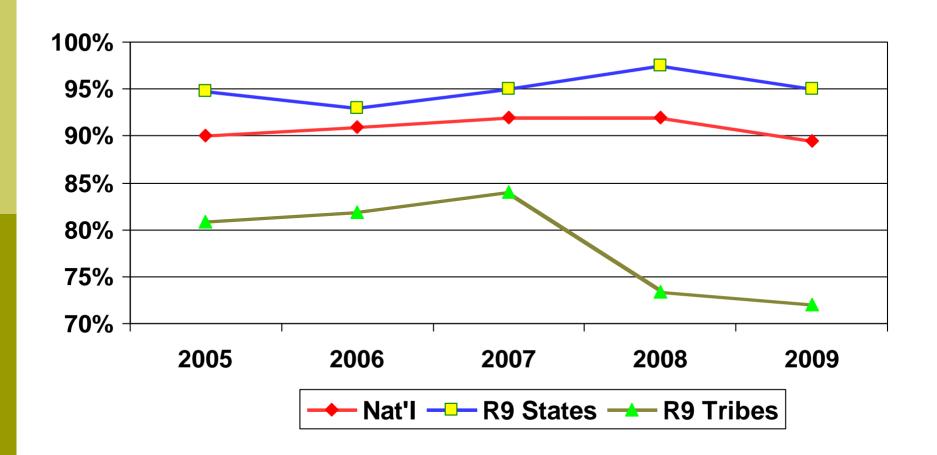
- To significantly improve human health and the environment in Indian country through EPA working with tribes on:
 - compliance assistance,
 - compliance monitoring,
 - and enforcement activities.
- The focus remains on improving compliance at public drinking water systems, improving solid waste management compliance and investigating and reducing threats posed by illegal dumping in Indian country, and improving multimedia compliance at schools.

Region 9 Drinking Water Enforcement Strategy

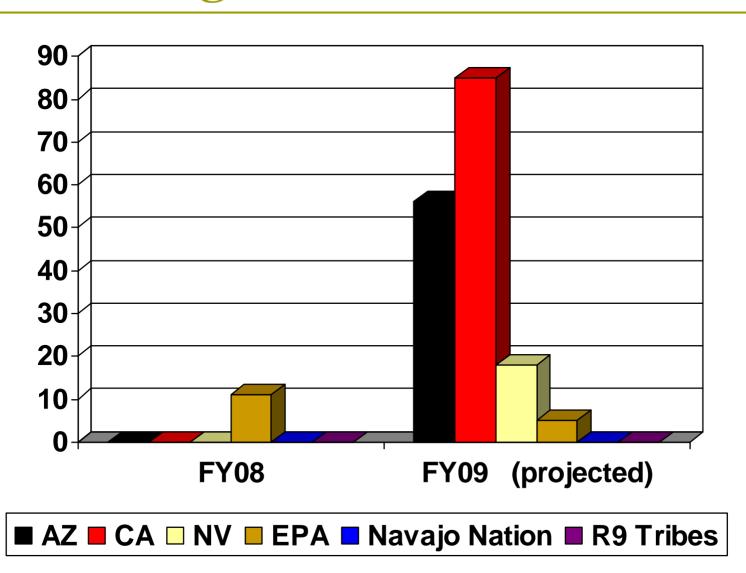
- Improve drinking water quality for all Region 9 communities
- Address all arsenic MCL violations within 2 years (i.e., systems should have complied with new arsenic standard by January 2008)
- Respond to Senator Boxer's concerns re implementation of drinking water rules
- Leverage increased water infrastructure funding to address highest priority needs

PWSS Drinking Water Compliance

US population served meeting all health-based standards



Region 9 Enforcement Actions Addressing Arsenic MCL Violations



Region 9 Drinking Water Enforcement Strategy

- Develop Compliance Assistance Plans (CAPs) for all Tribally-owned systems
- Formal enforcement actions for BIAowned/operated systems
- Compliance assistance and formal enforcement on case-by-case basis for privately-owned/operated systems
- Option: Administrative Orders on Consent for all systems

Region 9 Drinking Water Enforcement Implementation Process

- Statutory Language
 - The SDWA, 42 U.S.C. § 300j-11(a)(b), authorizes the Administrator to treat Indian Tribes as States.

- Guidance
 - 1984 Indian Policy
 - Memorandum: Enforcement at Public Water Systems in Indian Country (March 31, 2009)

More Information / Questions



Contact:

Joel Jones, Enforcement Team Leader US EPA Region 9 Water Division Drinking Water Office (415-972-3449) Jones.Joel@epa.gov